

SECTION IV

BUSINESS DISTRICT PROFILES

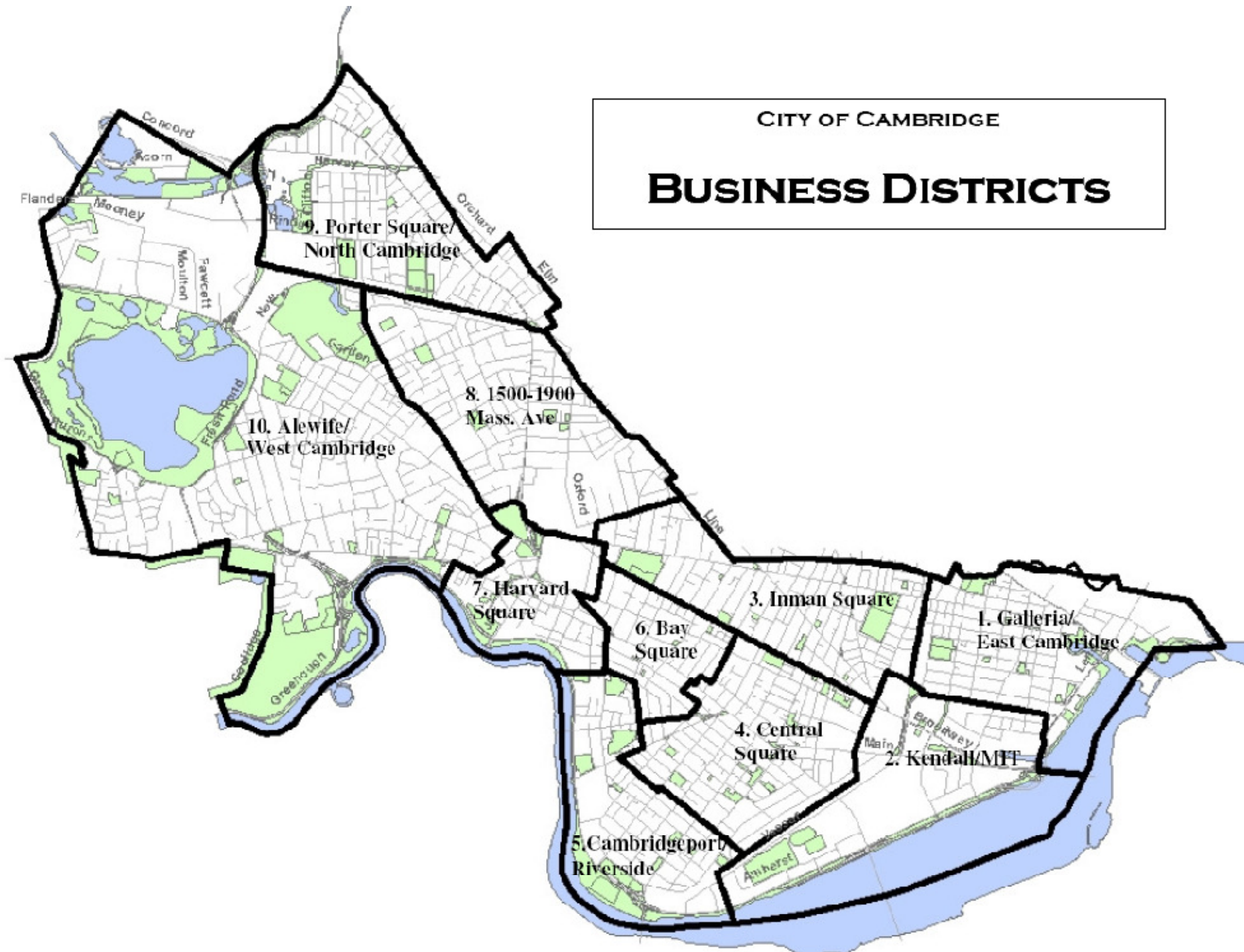
- 1. GALLERIA / EAST
CAMBRIDGE**
- 2. KENDALL / MIT**
- 3. INMAN SQUARE**
- 4. CENTRAL SQUARE**
- 5. CAMBRIDGEPORT/
RIVERSIDE**
- 6. BAY SQUARE**
- 7. HARVARD SQUARE**
- 8. 1500-1900 MASS AVE**
- 9. PORTER SQUARE**
- 10. ALEWIFE / WEST
CAMBRIDGE**



THE FOLLOWING IS AN OVERVIEW
OF SPECIFIC CRIMES FOR
CAMBRIDGE BUSINESS DISTRICTS

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

BUSINESS DISTRICTS



***Business Area # 1:
East Cambridge/Galleria***

Boundaries: bordered by Somerville, the Charles River, Binney Street, and the Conrail Railroad line

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: The Galleria, Restaurants and retail shops on First Street, restaurants and retail shops on Cambridge Street between #1 and #700, industrial and retail establishments on Bent, Binney, Hurley, and Thorndike Streets.



CambridgeSide Galleria

Commercial burglaries continue to decrease in the East Cambridge business district. Over the past two years there been only seven commercial establishments broken into in this area. At the beginning of the decade, the 200 to 700 blocks of Cambridge Street and large retailers on First Street were plagued with “smash and grab” burglaries. Utilizing target hardening techniques and coordinated patrol strategies to attack this long term trend has paid dividends. Commercial burglary has dropped from 30 incidents in 2006 to a historic low of only three crimes recorded in 2010. • **Larceny from buildings** recorded a 14% decline in this business district in 2010. Further analysis reveals that thefts of this type are waning dramatically when compared with the totals of over 100 incidents per year at the start of the decade. Larceny from building falls into four distinct scenarios in this business district: the theft of employee’s property at the rear of stores at the Mall; power tools stolen from construction sites; laptops taken from research firm offices; and the pilfering of cash and credit cards from lockers at health clubs. As with commercial burglary, target hardening and heightened crime prevention by local security staffs have been extremely effective in curtailing these incidents. • **Shoplifting** increased by 8% in this area in 2010. Ninety-eight percent of the shoplifting in this business district is at the Galleria Mall. Prime time for shoplifters is between the hours of 2:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays. • **Larceny from the person** fell for the second year in a row in this business district in 2010. Over 65% of these types of crimes involved the thefts of wallets or purses from victims who were shopping. The number of thefts from people dining in the food court at the Mall continues to decline. The temporal trend for this theft type is on Saturday afternoons.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	85	60	51	50	43
Larceny from Person	44	46	54	45	39
Commercial Burglary	30	26	12	4	3
Commercial Robbery	3	0	6	2	1
Shoplifting	103	121	167	165	179
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	70	41	66	53	46

Business Area # 2:
MIT/Kendall Square/Lower
Broadway

Boundaries: bordered by Binney Street, the Charles River, Amesbury Street, and the Conrail Railroad

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: Offices, shops, restaurants in Kendall Square, Cambridge Center, Offices and shops on Broadway between #1 and #200, Tech. Square, M.I.T., and the Hyatt Regency.



Kendall Square

Larceny from buildings accounted for nearly 50% of the business related crimes in this area in 2010. For years, the city's hi-tech business district had been plagued by varied instances of this crime type, claiming an average of 250 larcenies from buildings per year between 1980 and 1990. That number has been reduced dramatically over the past few years with substantial technological advances for internal security of offices buildings. Larcenies from buildings in this area have averaged less than 30 incidents per year since 2006. The majority of the increase of 11 incidents in 2010 can be traced to a series of thefts from health club lockers in September and October. • **Larceny from the person** has never been considered a major problem for Kendall Square. Incidents are very sporadic in nature and usually average less than 13 crimes per year. Seventy percent of these pick pocketing crimes are from diners at the Cambridge Center food court. • **Shoplifting** is very rare in this business district with an average slightly above two per year since 2006. • The first **commercial robbery** in this area in over 14 months was recorded in February of 2010; there have been six commercial robberies in Kendall Squares since 2006. Four of the crimes were at convenience stores; the other two were at banks. • The last major **commercial burglary** pattern in this area was in 2006 when there was a series of thefts of tools from construction sites. Thirteen breaks were reported that year; there have been only nine incidents reported in the four years since then.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	28	27	33	23	34
Larceny from Person	12	12	18	8	13
Commercial Burglary	13	2	3	2	2
Commercial Robbery	1	2	2	0	1
Shoplifting	3	2	3	2	3
Fraud/Flim	8	12	20	26	16
Flam/Counterfeiting					

***Business Area # 3:
Inman Square/Harrington***

Boundaries: by the Conrail Railroad, the Somerville line, Leonard Avenue, Cambridge Street, Dana Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: the offices, shops, restaurants of Inman Square, all business establishments between 700 and 1400 Cambridge Street, offices, industries and restaurants on Hampshire Street and between 100 to 380 Prospect Street and 100 to 300 Broadway.



Inman Square

Larceny from buildings increased by ten incidents in Business District #3 in 2010, when compared with last year's total. The majority of this increase can be attributed to the theft of unattended cell phones and laptops at libraries, schools, and restaurants. • The majority of the increase in **shoplifting** incidents from two crimes in 2009 to eight in 2010 can be traced to the arrest of homeless individuals stealing from a liquor store in the Square. • **Larceny from persons** in restaurants and bars (pickpockets targeting diners) around Inman Square has fallen considerably over the past two years, from 27 thefts in 2008 to 7 reports in 2010. • There has been no repeat of the weekend night **commercial breaks** along Hampshire and Cambridge Streets into restaurants and convenience stores that plagued the Square in 2006 and 2007. The decline continued in 2010 with a 50% reduction of commercial burglaries registered • **Commercial robberies** fell in Business District #3 in 2010 by one incident. Five of the six commercial robberies in this Business District over the past two years were by knifepoint at convenience stores. A team of robbers operating out of Somerville were charged with two of these incidents. • The **fraudulent use of credit cards** and identity theft remained relatively unchanged in the area in 2010.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	29	20	31	13	23
Larceny from Person	24	25	27	15	7
Commercial Burglary	30	17	9	14	7
Commercial Robbery	3	5	6	3	2
Shoplifting	4	5	5	2	8
Fraud/Flim	42	44	52	36	37
Flam/Counterfeiting					

***Business Area #4:
Central Square***

Boundaries: the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Western Avenue, Pleasant Street, Green Street, Sellers Street, Bigelow Street, Doyle Way, Inman Street, and Broadway

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: shops, offices, restaurants between 200 and 830 Massachusetts Avenue, offices on Bishop Allen Drive, restaurants on Green Street, establishments between 770 and 910 Main Street, and City Hall

***Central Square***

There were eight additional **larcenies from the building** recorded in Central Square 2010. Part of this increase can be linked to the theft of copper drain spouts from churches and public buildings on the periphery of the Square. As usual, the majority of this crime type involved thefts from health clubs and the back room thievery of workers' property. • **Larceny from the person** declined 5% in Central Square when compared with the 2009 figures. However, this target crime remains a primary concern in this area, ranking only behind Harvard Square as a dipper "hot spot." Pickpockets target diners in cafes, restaurants, and coffee shops between 400 and 700 Mass Ave. Professional thieves prey upon females' purses on the backs of chairs during the afternoon, then turn their attention to coats, cell phones, and wallets in the bars late on weekend nights. One trend identified in 2010 was a decrease in the thefts at coffee shops and an increase at fast food establishments. • **Shoplifting** in Central Square has taken a dramatic surge downward from over 100 incidents in 2006 and 2007 to 31 thefts in 2010. A high percentage of shoplifting arrests were in drug stores in the 600 block of Mass Ave • **Commercial breaks** remained flat with a slight decrease of two incidents. There were no identifiable patterns for this crime in Central Square in 2010. An unusual statistic was that only one break occurred in the 400 to 700 blocks of Mass Ave, which in past years has been a hot spot for this type of serious crime. • Two banks and a bar were robbed in Central Square in 2010, down from seven **commercial robberies** reported in 2009. All three crimes were cleared with arrests.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	72	100	72	69	77
Larceny from Person	102	89	98	91	86
Commercial Burglary	37	16	17	21	19
Commercial Robbery	4	4	3	7	3
Shoplifting	107	102	63	54	31
Fraud/Flim	79	75	74	70	68
Flam/Counterfeiting					

Business Area #5:
Cambridgeport/Riverside

Boundaries: bordered by the Charles River, Amesbury Street, the Conrail Railroad, Erie Street, Fairmont Street, River Street, Howard Street, Kinnaird Street, and Flagg Street.

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial Concentration include: all businesses between 550 and 900 Memorial Drive, all industrial, retail and restaurants on Brookline, Pearl, Magazine, River and Western to the south of Erie Street.



*Memorial Drive/Lower
Cambridgeport*

Historically, there are fewer business related target crimes recorded in the Cambridgeport/Riverside business district than in any of the other nine areas citywide. That trend held true in 2010. **Larcenies from buildings** increased by ten incidents in this area in 2010. However, the numbers in comparison to other areas were very low, and the thefts were an eclectic combination of unattended purses stolen at bars and schools, items pilfered from store counters, and personal property snatched from hotel rooms. • **Larceny from the person** has never been identified as a serious crime problem in this business district, with an average slightly above ten crimes per year. The majority of the ten recorded incidents involved the thefts of women's purses while shopping at a local grocery store. This type of criminal scenario has been on the increase in the Greater Boston region over the past two years with a crew of professional pick pockets as possible suspects. • After recording only one **commercial robbery** in the past three years, three gas stations were victimized in 2010. All six commercial robberies in this business district since 2006 have been late night heists at gas stations. • **Commercial burglary** is another business related crime that produces amazingly low numbers, with only five breaks registered since 2007. Both of the incidents in 2010 were unsuccessful attempts to enter businesses on Memorial Dr. • Thirty-four of the forty **shoplifting** arrests in this business area over the past two years were at Microcenter; the other six were at Whole Foods. The majority of the arrests were made between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	14	14	18	7	17
Larceny from Person	10	10	14	8	10
Commercial Burglary	8	1	2	1	2
Commercial Robbery	2	0	0	1	3
Shoplifting	16	16	7	20	20
Fraud/Flim	32	20	27	34	26
Flam/Counterfeiting					

Business Area # 6:
Bay Square/Upper Broadway

Boundaries: bordered by Inman St., Doyle Way, Bigelow St., Sellers St., Green St., Pleasant St., Western Avenue, Howard St., Kinnaird St., Putnam Avenue, Massachusetts Avenue, Prescott St., Kirkland St., the Somerville Line, Leonard Avenue, Cambridge St., Dana St., and Broadway

Major area of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: all offices, restaurants and establishments between 830 and 1050 Massachusetts Avenue, all retail industrial and offices on Cambridge Street between Dana Street and Trowbridge Street and on Harvard Street and Broadway between Inman and Trowbridge.



Bay Square

In 2010, **larceny from the building** increased by 13 incidents (54%) in Business District #6 when compared with the 2009 figures. This larceny type accounts for the majority of the business related crime in the Bay Square/Upper Broadway area. Thefts of cell phones from lockers and classrooms at CRLS still remain a problem with 15 incidents reported in 2010. Sporadic thefts from offices in the 900 to 1000 block of Mass Ave reappeared after a two-year hiatus. • There was one **shoplifting** incident in the Bay Square district in 2010. Over the past five years, there have been only four arrests for shoplifting from the shops in this business district. • **Larceny from the person**, never a major problem for this business district, fell from nine incidents in 2009 to eight thefts in 2010. The majority of these thefts were by pickpockets targeting diners in the bars and restaurants along Mass Ave and public buildings on Broadway • The fact that there was only one **commercial burglary** in the Bay Square business district in 2010 is an amazing statistic. The sporadic breaks usually identified in the 1000 block of Mass Ave never materialized in 2010. • Zero commercial robberies were recorded here in 2010. In 2009, for the fourth consecutive year, one **commercial robbery** was recorded in Bay Square. *Servicepoint*, located at 1000 Mass Ave, was robbed at gunpoint in December of 2009. Three of the four commercial stickups here since 2006 were at convenience stores.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	26	23	39	24	37
Larceny from Person	10	14	12	9	8
Commercial Burglary	6	6	3	6	1
Commercial Robbery	1	1	1	1	0
Shoplifting	1	1	1	0	1
Fraud/Flim	26	38	42	27	39
Flam/Counterfeiting					

***Business Area #7:
Harvard Square***

Boundaries: bordered by Prescott Street, Massachusetts Avenue, Putnam Avenue, Flagg Street, the Charles River, Ash Street, Mason Street, Garden Street, Waterhouse Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Cambridge Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: establishments and business offices on Massachusetts Avenue between 1050 and 1540, Mt. Auburn Street between 1 and 168, and the numerous restaurants, shops, and offices on Holyoke, Dunster, and Winthrop Streets, as well as, the Charles Square and University Place complexes.



Harvard Square

Larceny from the person is the major business related crime concern for Harvard Square. Despite the arrest of three career dippers during 2010, this crime still shot up 25% since 2009 and 72% since 2008. Professional pickpockets tend to use public transportation and Harvard Square has been a hotspot for this activity. A dipper's favorite target is someone who is preoccupied, such as a person who leaves a purse unattended in a coffee shop, a tourist overloaded with packages, or someone totally engaged on their cell phone. A high percentage of these crimes in 2010 were in coffee shops on weekends between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. • **Shoplifting** in Harvard Square increased by 24% this year. A series of thefts at T-Mobile was an ongoing problem throughout 2010. Another area of concern involved shoplifting arrests at drug and department stores on Brattle Street and Mass Ave. • **Commercial robbery** shot up from one incident in 2009 to eight reported crimes in 2010. Between early May and Christmas, there were two bank robberies, two electronic store heists, two convenience store stick-ups, and two restaurants victimized in Harvard Square. • There were five additional **commercial burglaries** registered in this business district in 2010. There were no spatial or temporal trends identified but the majority of the breaks were into restaurants and churches.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	43	63	67	41	69
Larceny from Person	89	73	74	102	127
Commercial Burglary	18	13	8	8	13
Commercial Robbery	0	10	4	1	8
Shoplifting	56	48	61	46	57
Fraud/Flim	28	34	38	33	39
Flam/Counterfeiting					

MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

(1500-1900 block)

Business Area #8: Massachusetts Avenue Corridor

Boundaries: bordered by Kirkland Street, the Somerville Line, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Waterhouse Street, Massachusetts Avenue, and Cambridge Street

Major areas of Business, Retail, and Industrial concentration include: retail shops, restaurants and offices between 1540 to 1880 Massachusetts Avenue, businesses and offices on Garden, Sherman and Oxford Streets.



1500-1900 Massachusetts Avenue

The total number of **larcenies from buildings** dropped from 35 thefts in 2009 to 28 in 2010. However, thefts from health club lockers remains a problem, with 15 incidents reported from facilities in the 1800 block of Mass Ave. The thefts of laptops and cell phones from Lesley College and other schools in the area is also an ongoing problem • Since 2006, there have been 12 **commercial robberies** in this business district. There were two in 2010. Seven of the twelve robberies were committed between noon and 6:00 p.m. There have been arrests in six of the incidents. • For an area with such a high concentration of retail establishments and pedestrian activity, the total of only 22 **shoplifting** arrests in the corridor over the past five years is significant. • **Larceny from the person** was down five incidents in 2010. Patterns are identified in this business area much less frequently than in Harvard and Central Squares. The trend identified over the past three years is that 10 to 15 patrons in bars confined to the 1600 and 1700 blocks of Mass Ave will be the targets of pickpockets on weekend nights. • There has not been a **commercial burglary** pattern identified in this area in the past three years. Commercial breaks fell from nine incidents in 2009 to five in 2010. The majority of the breaks in recent years have been into restaurants and bars in the 1800 to 1900 block of Mass Ave.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	25	29	26	35	28
Larceny from Person	19	19	22	20	15
Commercial Burglary	8	15	5	9	5
Commercial Robbery	2	3	4	1	2
Shoplifting	7	5	2	1	7
Fraud/Flim	36	48	37	46	40
Flam/Counterfeiting					

***Business Area # 9:
Porter Square/ North
Cambridge***

Boundaries: bordered by the B&M Railroad, Alewife Brook Parkway, and the Somerville Line

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentrations include: all retail and commercial establishments between 1840 Massachusetts Avenue and the Arlington line, including Porter Square Mall. All commercial properties along Rindge and Sherman to the border of the RR tracks.



Porter Square

Shoplifting, which has never been identified as a problem in the Porter Square business area, shot up from 13 incidents in 2008 to 49 in 2009. This target crime took a step back with a 49% reduction in 2010. Historically, close to 80% of these incidents were at CVS and Shaw's Supermarket. The temporal trend identified for the shoplifting incidents is on weekdays between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. • **Commercial robberies** dropped for the fourth consecutive year in 2010. This crime has slid down from thirteen in 2006, to nine in 2007, to four in 2008, to two in 2009 and to but one incident last year. Further analysis of robberies in Porter Square over the past five years reveals that ten were bank robberies, fourteen were convenience stores, three were gas stations and three were other retail establishments. Temporal analysis indicates a high percentage of the incidents were mid-week between noon to 4:00 p.m. • **Commercial breaks** into restaurants and convenience stores in the 2400 block of Mass Ave helped propel a five-incident increase in the Porter Square business area for this crime. The majority of these incidents were in the first two quarters of the year. There were only four commercial breaks recorded over the final six months of 2010. There has not been a significant commercial break pattern identified here in a number of years. • **Larcenies from persons**, seldom a problem in Porter Square, decreased by three incidents in Business District #9 in 2010. The majority of these incidents involved the thefts of purses from female victims in grocery stores. • There was a 72% increase in **Larceny from buildings** in Porter Square in 2010. The majority of these thefts were of employees' personal property from the rear of retail establishments.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	36	23	32	18	31
Larceny from Person	17	25	19	21	18
Commercial Burglary	24	16	7	13	18
Commercial Robbery	13	9	4	2	1
Shoplifting	21	32	13	49	25
Fraud/Flim Flam/Counterfeiting	40	35	42	41	44

***Business Area #10:
West Cambridge/Alewife***

Boundaries: bordered by the Charles River, the Watertown, Belmont, and Arlington Lines, Alewife Brook Parkway, the B&M Railroad, Sherman Street, Garden Street, Mason Street, and Ash Street

Major areas of Business/Retail/Industrial concentration include: businesses and offices on Mt. Auburn Street between 180 and 700 including the Shaw's Supermarket, the Fresh Pond Mall, industrial and research complexes on Smith, Fawcett, Mooney and Cambridge Park Drive, the Huron Village area, shops and restaurants on Concord and Garden Street.



Alewife/West Cambridge

Commercial robbery had become a concern in the Alewife/West Cambridge District and was averaging nine robberies per year between 2004 and 2008. In 2009, there were only three commercial robberies in this district, and only one incident was recorded this year. Two suspects were arrested later in the day in Woburn for attempting to rob the CVS at the Fresh Pond Mall in July. • **Shoplifting** increased by four incidents in 2010. The previously identified trend involving a large percentage of Boston residents being arrested for shoplifting at the Fresh Pond Mall held true in 2010. These shoplifters tended to be older in age and more professional than arrestees in other business districts. • **Larcenies from buildings** decreased 17% in this business district when compared with the figures of 2009. The majority of these thefts were of laptops from local research companies and pilfering of personal property at health clubs, hotels, and schools. • There was an increase of seven reports of **larceny from the person** in Business District #10 in 2010. The majority of the incline can be attributed to the thefts of wallets from the purses of distracted shoppers in supermarkets. • Despite the fact that **commercial burglary** registered a 113% increase in West Cambridge/Alewife in 2010, there were no geospatial or temporal trends identified. There has not been a commercial burglary pattern identified in this area since the smash-and-grab series that previously plagued businesses on Huron Ave in 2007. A professional burglary crew was linked to a pair of breaks at Fresh Pond Golf Course.

CRIME	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Larceny from Building	40	59	48	41	34
Larceny from Person	12	31	19	12	19
Commercial Burglary	18	23	10	8	17
Commercial Robbery	11	7	6	3	1
Shoplifting	26	17	30	30	34
Fraud/Flim	49	43	48	41	46
Flam/Counterfeiting					